

Glossary of Terms

Note: Many additional terms can be found in Title 3 California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 6000 and Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 152.3

Active ingredient(s): Active ingredient means any substance (or group of structurally similar substances if specified by U.S. EPA) that will prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate any pest, or that functions as a plant regulator, desiccant, or defoliant within the meaning of FIFRA sec. 2(a), except as provided in 40 CFR part 174.3 [FIFRA](#)
[Sec. 2](#)
[40CFR](#)
[152.3](#)
[152.125](#)

Acute dermal LD₅₀: A statistically derived estimate of the single dermal dose of a substance that would cause 50 percent mortality to the test population under specified conditions. [40CFR](#)
[152.3](#)

Acute inhalation LC₅₀: A statistically derived estimate of the concentration of a substance that would cause 50 percent mortality to the test population under specified conditions. [40CFR](#)
[152.3](#)

Acute oral LD₅₀: A statistically derived estimate of the single oral dose of a substance that would cause 50 percent mortality to the test population under specified conditions. [40CFR](#)
[152.3](#)

Adjuvant: see Spray Adjuvant

Agricultural use: The use of any pesticide or method or device for the control of plant or animal pests, or any other pests, or the use of any pesticide for the regulation of plant growth or defoliation of plants. It excludes the sale or use of pesticides in properly labeled packages or containers that are intended for any of the following:

- a. Home use
- b. Use in structural pest control
- c. Industrial or institutional use
- d. The control of an animal pest under the written prescription of a veterinarian
- e. Local districts or other public agencies that have entered into and operate under cooperative agreement with the State Department of Health Services pursuant to section 116180 of the Health and

Safety Code, provided that any exemption under this subdivision is subject to the approval of the director as being required to carry out the purposes of this division.

Note: California law defines agricultural use differently than U.S. EPA. For U.S. EPA's definition, please see 40 CFR part 170.3.

Algaecide: Substance intended to kill algae in various settings including swimming pools, industrial water cooling towers, and agricultural sites.

Antifouling product: Pesticide intended for use on boat and ship bottoms, pier and dock pilings, and similar submerged structures to prevent attachment or damage and destruction by marine invertebrates.

Antimicrobial product: Pesticide intended to inhibit growth of any bacteria, fungi or viruses declared to be a pest and which exist in any environment, except in or on living man or animals. This includes the following:

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- i. Sanitizer and disinfectant used on inanimate surfaces.
- ii. Sterilizer intended to kill virus and all bacteria, fungi and their spores, on inanimate surfaces, except liquid sterilants used to sterilize critical and semicritical medical equipment that are exempt from registration
- iii. Bacteriostat intended to inhibit growth of bacteria in the presence of moisture.
- iv. Fungicide and fungistat intended to inhibit the growth of, or destroy fungi (including yeasts).
- v. Commodity preservative and protectant intended to inhibit the growth of, or destroy bacteria and fungi.
- vi. Preservative and protectant used in manufacturing processes.

Applicant: A person who applies for a registration, amendment, or renewal of a pesticide product registration.

Attractant: Substance which, though its property of attracting certain animals, is intended to help in mitigating pests.

Attractants include sensory stimulants such as pheromones, synthetic attractants, and certain extracts from naturally occurring organic materials. Attractants can be used alone or they can be used in combination with toxicants to kill pests.

Avicide: Substance intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate pest birds. Bird toxicants and repellents also include sensory agents utilizing taste, sight, touch, or other means, intended to repel certain bird species or populations from certain sites, and reproductive inhibitors intended to reduce or otherwise alter the reproductive capacity.

Bacteriostatic water filter: This is a water filter unit containing a substrate such as activated charcoal, with a bacteriostatic agent, used for terminal (end) processing of potable (drinking) water.

Basic registrant: A term used to describe a company that manufactures a product. Also known as the basic manufacturer or primary registrant.

Biopesticide: Certain types of pesticides derived from such natural materials as animals, plants, bacteria, and certain minerals. There are three major classes of biopesticide: 1) Microbial 2) Plant-Incorporated-Protectants 3) Biochemical.

Biochemical pesticide: Naturally occurring substances that control pests by non-toxic mechanisms and include substances such things as insect sex pheromones and scented plant extracts. Please see Chapter 8 for more information.

Carbamate: group of organic compounds sharing a common functional group with the general structure -NH(CO)O- .

Chemigation: Applying pesticide through an irrigation system or mixing with irrigation water before the water is applied to the soil or crop. [CCR 6000 FAC 13142 40CFR 170.3](#)

Chronic toxicity: The property of a substance or mixture of substances to cause adverse effects in an organism, upon repeated or continuous exposure over a period of at least one-half the lifetime of that organism.

Closed system: A procedure for removing a pesticide from its original container, rinsing the emptied container, and transferring the pesticide and rinse solution through connecting hoses, pipes, and couplings that are sufficiently tight to prevent exposure of any person to the pesticide or rinse solution. Rinsing is not required for undiluted pesticide. System design and construction must meet DPR criteria. [CRR 6000 6746](#)

Co-pack: Also known as a multi-pack, a co-pack is 1) registered pesticide product, in one container, that is packaged with a non-pesticide component, in a separate container and sold as a single unit or 2) two or more pesticide products packaged in separate containers but sold together.

Conditional registration: A time-limited product registration granted to a registrant where specific data requirements are waived, provided the company agrees to submit that data within three years or less. [CCR 6200](#)

Confidential business information (CBI): Information that is considered trade secret under federal law and not releasable under the Public Record Act (section 6254.2) See FIFRA section 10.

Concurrent submission: A product application submitted to California concurrently with the product application submission to U.S. EPA. (See FAC sections 12836 and 12836.5)

Defoliant: A substance which causes leaves or foliage to drop from plants such as harvest-aid agents for cotton to facilitate harvesting. FAC
[12752](#)
FIFRA
[Sec. 2](#)

Degradation Product: A substance resulting from the transformation of a pesticide by physicochemical or biochemical means.

Desiccant: A substance or mixture of substances intended for artificially accelerating the drying of plant tissue. Desiccants include harvest aid agents that result in accelerated drying and death (maturation) of certain crop plants, such as cotton and soybeans. FIFRA
[Sec. 2](#)

Device: Any instrument or contrivance (other than a firearm) as described in [40CFR 152.500](#) [FIFRA Section 2\(h\)](#) which traps, destroy, repels, or mitigates a pest. A device is not considered a pesticide, with the exception of certain structural uses requiring California registration under FAC 15300.

Diluent: A substance that is mixed with a pesticide to adjust the concentration of the final finished spray prescribed on the pesticide label. A diluent is added in the field by the end user. Water is generally used as a diluent. We do not regulate diluents. memo
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Disinfectant product: Disinfectants are used on hard inanimate surfaces & objects to destroy or irreversibly inactivate infectious fungi & bacteria but not necessarily their spores. Disinfectants are divided into two groups: hospital and general use. (See label review manual)

Distributor registration: The distribution or sale of a registered product under another company's name or address. Also referred to as a subregistration or supplemental distribution. The distributor is considered an agent of the registrant under FIFRA. (See 40 CFR 152.132)

Drift: Movement of pesticide, during or immediately after use, through air to a site other than the intended site of application. See substantial drift (3 CCR 6000) CCR
[6000](#)

Dual use: Term used by DPR to define a pesticide that is labeled for both agricultural and home use, or other non-ag uses.

Economic Poison: Term no longer used for "pesticide".

Efficacy: The ability of a pesticide product when used according to label directions to control, kill, repel, or induce the desired action in the target pest as claimed.

Emergency exemption: The term for a [FIFRA Section 18](#) exemption from registration. The four types are specific, quarantine, public health, and crisis. An emergency exemption is issued in response to an emergency pest problem, where no registered alternatives are available.

Emergency registration: A time-limited registration under California law FAC Section 12833 that authorizes registration of a product during the scientific evaluation process, if an emergency exists and there was a previous Section 18.

End-use product: A pesticide products whose labeling 1) Includes directions for use of the product for controlling pests or defoliating, desiccating, or regulating the growth of plants and 2) Does not state that the product may be used to manufacture or formulate other pesticide products. (See [40 CFR 152.3](#))

Environment: Includes water, air, land, and all plants and man and other animals living therein, and the interrelationships which exist among these.

Establishment: Location where a pesticide or device or active ingredient used in producing a pesticide is produced or manufactured. [FIFRA](#)
[Sec. 2](#)
[40CFR](#)
[167](#)

Final printed labeling: The label or labeling of the product when distributed or sold. It does not include the package of the product, unless the labeling is an integral part of the package. (See [40 CFR 152.3](#))

Fumigant: To apply smoke, vapor, or gas to especially for the purpose of disinfecting or of destroying pests. (Merriam-Webster dictionary)

Fungicide: Substance intended to prevent or inhibit growth, or kill any fungus (including yeasts), except those on or in living man or animals, declared to be a pest. This includes both agricultural fungi, industrial fungi, and household fungi (not including mildew).

Herbicide: Substance intended to kill, prevent, or inhibit the growth of plants and plant parts declared to be a pest. An herbicide can act by direct contact, soil treatment, as a preemergent, as a root control, as a debarking agent on trees, as an aquatic herbicide, or as a biological weed-control agent. Herbicides can also be used in swimming pools, and aquariums. The definition does not include plant growth regulators or slimicides.

Home use: Use of a product in the home or its immediate environment. [CCR](#)
[6000](#)

Household use: The pesticide is applied directly to humans or pets in, on, or around all structures, vehicles, or areas associated with the household or home life. See also definition for residential.

Immediate container: The container which is in direct contact with the pesticide.

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Industrial use: Use for or in a manufacturing, mining or chemical process or use in the operation of factories, processing plants, and similar uses. [6000](#)

Inert ingredient: Any substance (or group of structurally similar substances if designated by U.S. EPA), other than an active ingredient, which is intentionally included in a pesticide product, except as provided by 40 CFR part 174.3. Also known as “other” ingredients. [FIFRA Sec. 2 40CFR 152.3](#)

Ingredient statement: A statement that contains the name and percentage of each active ingredient and the total percentage of all inert ingredients in the pesticide.

Insect: Insects include beetles, bugs, bees, flies, and other allied classes of arthropods whose members are wingless and usually have more than six legs, (for example spiders, mites, ticks, centipedes, and wood lice), generally having the body more or less obviously segmented. Most belong to the Class Insecta, are six-legged, and usually winged. [FAC 12754 FIFRA Sec. 2](#)

Insecticide: Substance intended to destroy, repel, prevent or inhibit the establishment, reproduction, development, or growth of, any member of the Class Insecta or other allied Classes in the Phylum Arthropoda declared to be pests. Insecticides are used in agriculture, home or home garden, and other settings such as on stored food and feed, raw or manufactured goods, or on buildings and building materials.

Institutional use: Any application of a pesticide in or around any property or facility that functions to provide a service to the general public or to public or private organizations, including but not limited to:

- (1) Hospitals and nursing homes
- (2) Schools other than preschools and day care facilities
- (3) Museums and libraries
- (4) Sports facilities
- (5) Office buildings

[CCR 6000 40CFR 152.3](#)

Interim registration: A time-limited registration allowed by California law [FAC Section 13161-13170](#) to allow extra time to generate certain data in support of the registration. The product must be part of a pest management system. An additional \$5000 application fee is required.

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[Sec. 2](#)

Label: Written, printed, or graphic material on, attached to, or accompanying the pesticide product container or wrapper at any time.

USEPA

[Label](#)

[Review](#)

[Manual](#)

Labeling: All labels and all other written, printed, or graphic matter

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- (A) Accompanying the pesticide or device at any time or
- (B) To which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying the pesticide or device, except to current official publications of the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior, the Department of Health and Human Services, State experiment stations, State agricultural colleges, and other similar Federal or State institutions or agencies authorized by law to conduct research in the field of pesticides.

Leach: The process by which substances (pesticides) move through media, especially soil, or materials such as wood.

Letter of authorization: 1) Letter from a company authorizing use of their data on file to support another company's application for registration or 2) access to company information on file with DPR.

Manufacturing use product (MUP): Any pesticide product that is not an end-use product. [40CFR 152.3](#)

Master label: As defined by DPR, a Master Label is a pesticide product label bearing most or all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency accepted uses for that product. However, the company does not intend to market that label for sale and use in California.

Note: As defined by U.S. EPA, the “master label” is the label that contains all of the approved uses for a given product and all associated required labeling. (see label review manual)

Maximum residue levels (MRL): Term used especially by the European countries to define residue tolerance levels.

Microbial pesticide: Pesticide that consists of a microorganism (e.g., a bacterium, fungus, virus or protozoan) as the active ingredient. Microbial pesticides can control many different kinds of pests, although each separate active ingredient is relatively specific for its target pests. See Chapter 8.

Molluscicide: Pesticides intended to repel or kill organisms such as snails and slugs in the class of Mollusca or barnacles.

Multi-packs: Also known as a co-pack, a multi-pack is 1) registered pesticide product, in one container, that is packaged with a non-pesticide component, in a separate container and sold as a single unit or 2) two or more pesticide products packaged in separate containers but sold together.

Mutagenic: The property of a substance to induce changes in the genetic complement of either somatic or germinal tissue in subsequent generations.

Nematicide: Substance intended to prevent, repel, or destroy nematodes in or on [FIFRA Sec. 2](#) plants, plant parts, soil, or certain infested agricultural commodities or articles. Not included are unsegmented round worms with elongated, fusiform, or sac-like bodies covered with cuticle, and inhabiting soil, water, plants, or plant parts. Nematodes may also be called nemas or eelworms.

Neonicotinoids: A class of insecticides that is chemically similar to nicotine that acts as neurotoxins to insecticides. Examples include imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, and clothianidin.

New active ingredient: An active ingredient not currently registered in California.

New product: A pesticide product not currently registered in California. It can contain either a currently registered active ingredient or a new active ingredient.

Nominal concentration: The amount of an ingredient expected to be present in [40CFR 158.153](#) a typical sample of pesticide at the time the pesticide is produced. It is expressed as percentage by weight.

Nontarget organisms: Plants, animals, and other organisms that are not intended to be controlled, injured, killed, or detrimentally affected in any way by the use of a pesticide.

Oncogenic: The property of a substance to produce or induce benign or malignant tumor formations in living animals.

Organophosphate: Compounds derived from phosphoric acid that inhibits acetylcholinesterase, an enzyme needed for proper nervous system function.

Outdoor application: Any pesticide application or use that occurs outside enclosed man-made structures or the consequences of which extend beyond enclosed man-made structures, including, but not limited to, crops, pulp and paper mill water treatments and industrial cooling water treatments.

Personal protective equipment (PPE): Apparel and devices worn to maximize [40CFR 156.212](#) human body contact with pesticides or pesticide residues that must be provided [170.240](#) by an employer and are separate from, or in addition to, work clothing. Examples include coveralls, chemical resistant suits or gloves, respiratory [CCR 6000](#) protective equipment, protective eyewear.

Pest: Any undesired insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, bird, vertebrate, invertebrate, weed, virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which is declared to be injurious to health or environment. [FAC 12754.5](#) [FIFRA Sec. 2](#) [40CFR](#)

Pesticide: A pesticide includes the following:

- 1) A substance, or mixture of substances, intended to defoliate plants, regulate plant growth, or prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any insects, fungi, bacteria, weeds, rodents, predatory animal, or any other form of plant or animal life declared to be a pest detrimental to vegetation, man, animal, or households, or any environment.
- 2) Any spray adjuvant (DPR only). Spray adjuvants are not defined as pesticides by U.S. EPA.

Pheromone: A compound, produced by an arthropod, which modifies the behavior of the other individuals of the same species. Synthetic pheromones have also been manufactured.

Plant growth regulator: The term “plant regulator” means any substance or mixture of substances intended, through physiological action, for accelerating or retarding the rate of growth or rate of maturation, or for otherwise altering the behavior of plants or the produce thereof, but shall not include substances to the extent that they are intended as plant nutrients, trace elements, nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, and soil amendments. Plant growth regulators include, but are not limited to, substances intended to cause stimulation or retardation of plant growth, stem elongation, abscission, sucker control, flower induction and fruit set, fruit thinning, altered sex expression, fruit growth and ripening, rooting of cuttings, seed and bud dormancy, and crop yield enhancement.

Plant-incorporated-protectants (PIPs): Pesticidal substances that plants produce from genetic material that has been added to the plant.

Postharvest: The application of a pesticide after harvest, usually to a stored commodity. This can also include seed treatments and treatment of a perennial crop after harvest of fruits, nuts, etc.

Precursor: A chemical without pesticidal action which is converted on-site, through chemical reaction, to a pesticide.

Preharvest interval: The period between the last application of a pesticide and the time of harvest of the treated commodity.

Printer’s proof: A company label that has been reviewed and approved by an outside printing company.

Produce: Any food in its raw or natural state intended for consumer use with or without any further processing. [FIFRA Sec. 2](#)

Propellent: A gas or volatile liquid used in a pressurized pesticide product for the purpose of expelling the contents of the container.

Pyrethroid: Class of synthetic insecticides produced to duplicate or improve on the natural insecticide (pyrethrin) produced by chrysanthemum flowers. Examples include resmethrin, cypermethrin, and deltamethrin.

Registrant: A person or company who holds the registration of a pesticide and has obtained a certificate of registration (license) from the Department. [FAC 12756](#)

Research authorization (RA): The state-issued permit for experimental pesticide applications. This is a permit, not a registration action.

Residential: Use of a pesticide on pets, humans, or in, on, or around the area associated with a household. This also includes recreational vehicles and nonagricultural outbuildings and noncommercial greenhouses. [40CFR 152.3](#)

Residue: The pesticide active ingredient, metabolite, or degradation product that is on a crop after a pesticide application.

Residue tolerance: see [Tolerance](#)

Restricted entry interval (REI): The time after the end of a pesticide application during which entry into the treated area is restricted. [CCR 6000 6182 6770~6778 40CFR 170.3](#)

Restricted materials: The term used for either California restricted or federally restricted materials. [CRR 6000 6400 FAC 14001~14015 FIFRA Sec.11](#)

Rodenticide: Substance used to kill, repel, prevent, or inhibit reproduction of animals belonging to the Orders Rodentia and Insectivora and including all rabbits and hares. Rodenticides are usually used in conjunction with baits.

Rulemaking file: Copies of all correspondence relating to the adoption of

a regulation

Sanitizer: Substances which kill most of the vegetative bacteria on inanimate environmental surfaces. To qualify as a sanitizer, a 99.9% reduction of bacteria is required on non-food contact surfaces and 99.999% reduction on food contact surfaces after exposure to the substance for a defined contact time.

Section 18 Emergency Exemption: A time-limited exemption from registration for the use of an unregistered pesticide provided certain conditions are met.

FIFRA [sec.18](#)
CCR [6206](#)

Service container: Any container, other than the original labeled container of a registered pesticide product provided by the registrant, that is utilized to hold, store, or transport the pesticide or the use-dilution of the pesticide.

FAC [12859](#)
[12757.5](#)

CCR [6676](#)
[6678](#)

Seed treatment: Protectants applied to seed as slurries or solutions, or as dry mixtures prior to planting. Usually insecticides, herbicides, and/or fungicides for control of soil insects, weeds, and preemergence damping of organisms.

Slimicide: Substance intended prevent, inhibit the growth of, or destroy biological slimes composed of combinations of algae, bacteria or fungi declared to be pests. Slimicides include, but are not limited to slime control agents for use in industrial water cooling systems and in pulp and paper mill wet-end systems.

Special Local Need (SLN): An existing or imminent pest problem for which the state lead agency, based upon satisfactory supporting information, has determined that an appropriate federally-registered pesticide product is not sufficiently available. [Section 24\(c\) of FIFRA](#) authorizes the state to issue the registration.

Split label: Also known as sub-labeling, a split label is a label that bears claims and directions for only a portion of the approved uses under a given Master label (as defined by U.S. EPA) but are a complete label in itself, containing all of the required labeling elements and placed on the container.

FAC [12758](#)

Spray adjuvant: Product used to enhance the activity of a pesticide and which is sold in a separate package. This includes any wetting agent, spreading agent, deposit builder, adhesive emulsifying agent, deflocculating agent, water modifier, or similar agent, with or without

toxic properties of its own, intended to be used with another pesticide as an aid to the application or effect of the other pesticide.

Sterilant: Substance used to kill all bacteria, fungi, and viruses, including their spores.

Structural pest control: A use requiring a Structural Pest Control Board license.

Subregistration: A term used for the registration of a pesticide product by a distributor of the basic registrant's product.

Supplemental labeling: A term used to describe partial labels distributed separately from the container label, and may be distributed by the registrant or licensed distributor.

Teratogenic: The property of a substance to produce or induce functional deviations or developmental anomalies not heritable, in or on an animal embryo or fetus.

Tolerance, Residue: A residue tolerance is a commodity-specific federally established upper limit to the amount of a chemical's residue allowed on a commodity. This can be on a raw agricultural commodity at the time of harvest or, under certain circumstances, on a processed food or feed commodity. A chemical's residue includes the parent compound plus any degradates or metabolites. All substances intentionally applied to an agricultural crop must have a tolerance, or exemption from tolerance, established.

40CFR
[180](#)

ULV (Ultra Low Volume): A volume of one-half gallon or less total volume of spray per acre.

Use Dilution: The dilution specified on the label or labeling that produces concentration of the pesticide for a particular purpose or effect.

FAC
[12758.5](#)

Vector: Any organism capable of transmitting the agent of human disease, discomfort, or injury. Included are mosquitoes, flies, fleas, cockroaches, ticks, mites, rats.

FIFRA
[Sec. 2](#)

Volatility: The property of a substance to convert into vapor or gas without chemical change.

Weed: Any plant that grows where not wanted.

FIFRA
[Sec. 2](#)
FAC
[12759](#)